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## **ICN Announces Partnership with Iowa HSEMD to Merge 911 Networks**

### *ICN Selected to Merge Wireline (Landline) Network with Wireless Network*

**Des Moines, IA (10/6/17)** – Iowa Communications Network (ICN) will partner with Iowa Homeland Security & Emergency Management (HSEMD) to provide a private and secure network for 911 wireline (landline) calls. ICN will provide infrastructure and services for merging the existing wireline carrier network, consisting of all the State's wireline service providers, onto HSEMD's Next Generation 911 (NG911) IP Network.

The merged network will be able to handle up to 10Gb per link of capacity and will include protected power, protected paths, and redundant equipment. This project will merge the wireline call delivery with the wireless call delivery architecture. Today, analog wireline calls and wireless 911 calls are delivered using separate networks. ICN will aggregate analog wireline 911 calls, convert the calls to IP, and merge with HSEMD's existing NG911 network.

Benefits to ICN's network merging plan include:

- Limited maintenance downtime between the combined wireless/wireline networks.
- Public safety grade service level agreements.
- Ability to dedicate 24/7/365 network monitoring, maintenance, and support to maximize critical service needs.

"The ICN is looking forward to providing Iowa HSEMD and emergency responders in Iowa a dedicated, private, and secure network to merge Iowa's wireline and wireless 911 networks," explains Philip Groner, ICN's Chief Operating Officer. "We believe using the ICN's carrier grade network for this purpose will save Homeland Security and taxpayer's money, as well as establish a first class network for NG911 well into the future," Groner added.

ICN will support legacy circuits as well as the future IP based platforms. After completion, all carrier 911 traffic will be consolidated to HSEMD's NG911 two data centers. The ICN estimates the network will take six (6) to twelve (12) months to complete from deployment to turn-up.

ICN currently delivers all wireless NG911 calls to 113 public-safety answering points (PSAPs).

#### **Background:**

[Senate File 500](#) charged HSEMD with identifying potential cost savings through two potential methods: merging the legacy wireline 911 network with the Next Generation Wireless 911 Network and sharing PSAP services. [HSEMD's 9-1-1 Consolidation Study](#) can be found on the [HSEMD's website](#).

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#### **About the Iowa Communications Network**

*The Iowa Communications Network is BROADBAND STRONG; delivering FLEXIBLE broadband and FAST experiences to meet the growing broadband needs of education, government, public safety and healthcare in Iowa.*

Ric Lombard, Executive Director

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